



Flathead Conservation District
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901
www.flatheadcd.org 406-752-4220

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chair Ronald Buentemeier called the October 22, 2018, Business meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present:

Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman; Pete Woll, Vice Chairman; Dean Sirucek, Secretary/Treasurer; John Ellis, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Board members absent: Lori Curtis, Supervisor; Mark Siderius, Supervisor. Absences are excused.

Also in attendance were: Valerie Kurth, Hailey Graf and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Leo Rosenthal, MFW&P; Sean Johnson, NRCS; Brad Bennett; Cody Herring; Zach Weber; Don Murray; David & Jacqueline Stalowy.

MINUTES

Dean Sirucek motioned "to approve the minutes of the 10/9/2018 310 310-Stream Permit meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email: DNRC Watershed Management Grant cycle opens 10/15/18 and closes 11/15/2018 at 5:00 P.M. The grants provide financial support for the development and implementation of locally led watershed related planning and capacity building activities that conserve, develop, improve or preserve state water resources. For more information, visit <http://dnrc.mt.gov/watershed-management-grants>. or contact Watershed Management Grant program manager Brad Catron at (406) 444-6839 brad.catron@mt.gov
 2. Email: Liberty County CD 10/1/18 meeting minutes. Contact gail.cicon@mt.nacdnet.net 406-759-5128 x 102
 3. Email: Whitefish Planning Board meeting October 18, 2018, 6:00 P.M., Whitefish City Council Chambers. <http://www.cityofwhitefish.org>
 4. Email: MACD *District Dispatch* <https://macdnet.org>
 5. Email: Rosebud CD letter to MACD regarding dues and MACD response.
 6. Email: Women in Agriculture Conference (videoconference), October 27, 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M, Gallatin County Extension Office, 903 N. Black Avenue, Bozeman. Contact 406-531-2229.
 7. Email: National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) publications:
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- The NACD eResource, Conservation Clips*, www.nacdnet.org
8. Email: DNRC Development Grant applications due November 9th. Grant funding is available for cities and towns to improve the urban forests in their areas. Some project ideas to apply to your community include large/hazard tree removals, planting, irrigation, mitigation planning, and creative projects to incorporate green infrastructure to our towns. Contact Joshua Stoychoff, MT DNRC Service Forester, 406-535-1903 jstoychoff@mt.gov.
 9. Email: Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) publication *The Montana Conservationist*.
 10. Email: MSU Extension is pleased to invite the public to learn how research innovation at Montana universities is making an impact in our local community and around the world. Presented by the Montana University System, the October Research Roadshow features dynamic speakers in 25 Montana towns, sharing 10-minute research stories. Speakers come every public Montana University, and presentations will cover a wide range of topics, including tiny houses, space travel, suicide prevention, wildfire and cancer research. Join us Thursday, October 18, 2018 9:30 A.M. at Musselshell County Senior Center, 610 Second St. W., Roundup. Contact: Mat Walter, Extension Agent, Musselshell/Golden Valley Counties, m.petersonwalter@montana.edu 406-323-2704

FINANCIAL

The following bills were reviewed:

1. CenturyLink \$278.01
2. NACD \$750.00
3. VISA \$478.45

Pete Woll motioned “to approve the bills as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Zach Weber stated that he is in the process of purchasing property on Therriault Road in the Lower Valley area, and he had questions about 310 permitting. The property is an old farm with 1000 feet of river frontage, and it has a 20-foot wide swath of brush between the land and the river. He showed several photos. He plans to make it a single home residence, leaving most of the property agricultural. He expects to come back to the District to obtain a 310 permit for a dock, but he also wondered about removing some brush. He understands the brush is important, but wondered how the board felt about removing some of it to improve the view of the river. Pete Woll asked him if the property is the old Marshall place, which Zach affirmed. Ronald Buentemeier explained that the board cannot approve a project until they consider the application and visit the site. The jurisdiction is generally extends about 20 foot from the top of the bank, but each site and project is different. He also noted that the root systems along rivers are important to bank stability. Zach asked if the board was familiar with the properties to the north and south of his proposed property because they do not have as much brush along the river. Pete responded that he had, and his home is only 1.5 miles away. Zach also stated that he would like to build steps down the bank and asked if that would be allow. Ronald explained that he would need a permit and



explained the process. John Ellis asked Zach if he had a copy of the Adopted Rules. Zach stated yes, and that he just has to make a decision regarding purchase of the property. He thanked the board for their time.

310's

FH Stoltze L&L, FL2018051, Haskill Creek, bridge: Ronald Buentemeier reported that after the last meeting a phone poll had to be done to waive the 15-day waiting period. The applicant was ready to start work, but it had not been waived at the meeting. Ronald motioned "to approve the phone poll to waive the 15 day waiting period." Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Stalowy, FL2018064C, Bear Creek, complaint: Ronald Buentemeier stated that David Stalowy is present to discuss the recent complaint regarding work he is doing on Bear Creek. Ronald, Pete Woll, and Leo Rosenthal had visited the site the previous Wednesday.

David addressed the board, admitted that he had made a mistake, and apologized. He explained that he did not fully review the permit and overlooked the part about the walkway. Ronald asked if there were any questions for Mr. Stalowy, but there were not any. He went on to summarize the recent site visit, and he read from the after-the-fact permit, FL2016050: *B. Approve planned work for the remainder of the project site with the following changes:*

1. The east and west ends of the walkway on Beaver Lake may be extended to the shoreline and support posts replaced and/or repaired. Materials and construction will be similar to what was used in construction of existing walkway. He showed photos from the site visit and said that the existing walkway was in rickety condition. He explained that this was probably the best alternative way for Stalowy to access that part of his property because the area to the north is low and wet. He added that the site visit was arranged before the meeting because David had called him after the complaint was filed. Pete concurred with what Ronald said and added that the structure being built is a lot more than what was originally permitted. Leo remarked that it is currently a pedestrian walking bridge, but the new structure will accommodate vehicles and equipment. He asked David if he had plans to build a home site in the area across the walkway. David responded that he did not have plans for house construction, but he wanted to be able to access it safely and with motorized equipment, such a mulcher, for brush clearing or other forest maintenance. Leo clarified that the real difference between what it was before and what is being constructed is that the former is a pedestrian bridge and the latter can convey small equipment. David stated yes. Dean Sirucek asked how much of the construction was complete. Ronald, Pete, and Leo all said that very little was done and compared it to the size of the conference room table.

Ronald asked Don Murray if he had any comments. Don explained that he had not seen the site, but his client had observed the delivery of the bridge materials quite a while ago. Obviously, this project is substantially beyond what was permitted. He went on to say that the board essentially has two options: to either make him take it out or permit it. He also said that if the board does not take stringent action, then this type of activity will continue to happen. He thanked the board for their time.



Ronald Buentemeier motioned “in an effort to satisfy complaint #FL2018064C on Mr. Stalowy’s property, we are requesting that he turn in an after-the-fact application for our consideration by the next 310-meeting.” Pete asked that the motion be read back. Pete Woll seconded.

Valerie Kurth asked about having to state whether or not it is a violation in the motion. The board discussed how to remedy the motion.

John Ellis motioned “to find that based on the Complaint Inspection Report from Pete Woll, Leo Rosenthal and Ronald Buentemeier that FL2018064C is a violation of the rules of the Flathead Conservation District.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete suggested the board return to Ronald’s motion. Ronald asked it to be read again: Ronald Buentemeier motioned “in an effort to satisfy complaint #FL2018064C on Mr. Stalowy’s property, we are requesting that he turn in an after-the-fact application for our consideration by the next 310-meeting.” Pete Woll seconded. Ronald stated can we change the word complaint to violation.

John Ellis motioned “to amend the current motion to add the words *and that all work be stopped until a permit is granted.*” Ronald asked that the motions be read back. Ginger Kauffman read Ronald’s original motion, with the word “violation” in place of “complaint,” and John’s motion to amend Ronald’s motion. Dean Sirucek seconded John’s motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ginger read Ronald’s original motion again. He asked the board if there was any discussion.

Leo asked David to be very specific about the dimensions and the types of material to be used in his application. Ronald suggested he consult the FCD Adopted Rules because they contain specific information. David agreed. John Ellis called question. Motion carried unanimously.

David thanked the board. Ronald noted make sure you get details on what you are going to do. Mr. Stalowy agreed. *Note: This complaint pertains to permit FL2016050.*

TB River Farms, FL2018065, Stillwater River, irrigation structure: Verdell Jackson stated he and Kenny Breidinger looked at the site. Verdell read the project description from the application and showed onsite photos. He explained that currently, electricity is supplied to the pump and the pump is on the Stillwater River. Ronald Buentemeier asked if they are trying to get the pump away from the river. Verdell stated the water did come pretty close to the electrical station during a flood, so they will re-do that. The electrical station turns on the pump, but there is a fairly steep bank and the pump sometimes loses its prime. They will use an excavator to bury the line in a trench. Pete Woll asked about the line from the river and how it will be buried. Cody responded that it would be fabric and drain rock, about 2 feet in diameter. Ronald asked about the materials. Cody answered that it would be plastic and wrapped in filter fabric. Brad Bennett explained the idea is not to use an actual pipe but to have an open grade so the water can flow through the gravel trench back to the pump. Pete asked for clarity about the using suction to get from the source to the pump. Ronald expressed



concerns about this project working with the amount of fine sediment in the river in the spring and he and Cody discussed it. Dean Sirucek expressed concern about the pipe plugging in the spring and having an access on the top to flush it out. Cody said that they can back-flush the system. He went on to explain it will be a vertical culvert with pumps inside it. If necessary, they can bypass the pumps and check valve and use gravity to flush the system out. He explained that he had done this before, and the culvert protrudes into the river, so it may catch debris. But, this is going to have a big rip rock mouth into the river, which will match the geometry of the bank and limit the amount of debris entering the intake.

The board continued to ask Cody clarifying questions about the project layout, pipe dimensions, depth of the infiltration trench, and slope of the trench. Dean asked if there were any modifications to the application. Verdell said that he and Kenny did not have any. Leo Rosenthal asked if Kenny had submitted a team member report. Verdell said Kenny had signed the team member report and the 318 authorization. Verdell reviewed the considerations in the Team Member Report.

Verdell Jackson motioned “to approve the application as submitted.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried. Verdell Jackson motioned “that the 15-day waiting period be waived.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried.

Dean asked that the applicant take photos before filling in the trench because the board would like to see how it was constructed and learn from it. Cody said they would. Verdell asked Cody and Brad to call him before the trench is covered so he can look at it and take photos.

NEW BUSINESS

Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Convention Resolutions &

Voting: Valerie Kurth explained that she had emailed the three resolutions to be voted on at convention, and the board needed to vote on them tonight. We also need to designate one supervisor who will attend convention and have the authority to vote on the resolutions, with or without amendments.

Ronald Buentemeier stated that at the Area V meeting, he raised the issue of changing resolutions at convention with respect to public meeting law. Anything we take action on at a meeting has to be publically noticed on the agenda. Dan McGowan, MACD, called me recently about this. He said he had discussed this with Don MacIntyre, and they would like each district to appoint one supervisor to represent them and vote on resolutions at the convention. If amendments are made to a resolution, the supervisor can still act on it. Since Pete Woll will be attending convention, we need to appoint him to represent our district, and if a resolution is amended, we need to give him the authority to still vote on it. Pete added that we need to decide how to vote on the resolutions tonight. He said if there was a small amendment that does not change the intent, he would vote for it, but if the intent was changed, he would vote against it.

The board continued to discuss MACD and their resolution process. Ronald said this has been an ongoing issue. Dean Sirucek agreed that all conservation districts have to operate



under public notice rules, and it does not make sense that the association of those same districts does not have to operate under the same rules. Verdell Jackson asked Pete what he would do if an amendment greatly improved the resolution. Pete responded that if the amendment changes the intent of the resolution, he would vote against it because the rest of the board would not have been able to offer input on it. He would support a minor change, though.

Ronald asked why there were two resolutions on funding in the packet. Valerie explained that *Resolution 08-02: Operational Funding for Conservation Districts* is from 2008 and is just for reference; it is similar to the *Reinstating 310 Administration Program Funding*.

Dean Sirucek motioned “that the Flathead CD designate Pete Woll as our representative to vote on the MACD resolutions at convention, and that he use the combination of our vote here as well as his background knowledge during the voting procedure.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18 – Promoting Workshops on Invasive Weeds

John Ellis argued that he would vote against it because it seemed like a waste. The local conservation districts should be facilitating informational workshops, not MACD. It is just adding more work to MACD when they have more than enough to do anyway. Ronald asked if every county had its own weed board. Pete said that some do not, but he agreed with John about the resolution. Dean agreed as well. Ronald pointed out that there is also a state weed board that people can go to if their issues cannot be worked out in the county. Hailey Graf asked if anything prevented MACD from facilitating a workshop if they chose to. Ronald responded that he did not know of anything that would.

Dean Sirucek motioned “that we do not accept Resolution #18-: Promoting Workshops on Invasive Weeds.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

John sought additional clarification – that the board’s action was to instruct Pete to vote against this resolution at convention. The board agreed and Pete wrote *NO* on his notes.

Resolution 18 - Reinstating 310 Administration Program Funding

Valerie Kurth explained that this resolution specifically addresses 310 administrative grants, which is funding districts receive from DNRC to administer the 310 law. John Ellis stated that he supports administrative grant funding, especially to help smaller districts, but the wording of this resolution is *to reinstate funding the 310 permit application process*. It is unclear if that is the same as an administrative grant and if the intention is for MACD to pressure the legislature to reinstate the 310 administrative grants. The board discussed the language of the resolution and state funding.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “that we accept resolution 18 Reinstating 310 Administration Program Funding as presented.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried.



Resolution 18 – Promote Noxious Weed Control

The board had many unanswered questions about the intent of this resolution and what it would actually accomplish. Pete noted that weed districts already have this authority, so it seemed redundant to put it on MACD, too.

John Ellis motioned “the Flathead CD not support resolution 18- Promote Noxious Weed Control.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (MACD) Questionnaire:

Valerie Kurth explained that the questionnaire was given to all districts at the Area meetings. MACD would like us to discuss them and respond by October 30th. The board discussed thinking about the questions until the next meeting in November, but decided to proceed with suggestions to MACD. Ronald thought the most important thing was for them to recognize the amount of dues our district contributes and to equally service both sides of the state. He also thought someone from MACD should attend one of our board meetings. Pete suggested asking the new Executive Director, Dan McGowan, to come to one of our meetings for an in-person discussion because the questionnaire seems more for his benefit than the MACD board. John Ellis thought that these questions would make a good basis for a discussion session at the convention.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “to request MACD visit the conservation districts on the west side of the divide to learn about their operations and the problems they are faced with.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

310 Letter: Valerie Kurth explained this is the letter that was discussed at the last business meeting. It is for the Northern Pines Golf Course regarding their possible work within 310 jurisdiction on their cart path. There were a number of questions raised at the last meeting, so it was tabled until John Ellis could attend. John stated that he thought we were just notifying them of the existence of the 310-law and asking them to familiarize themselves with it and our adopted rules. The board discussed an issue resulting from a tree in the river upstream of the erosion by the cart path. Dean Sirucek clarified that the two issues were unrelated. He went on to explain that he thinks the course has done work that would fall under 310 jurisdiction and that they are just unfamiliar with the law. He did not think a letter like this would hurt. Supervisors reviewed and reworded the letter.

Joh Ellis motioned “to send a letter to the Northern Pines Golf Course, and to amend the second paragraph of the letter so the second paragraph reads the Stillwater River runs along the western boundary of the course and the bank is slumping into the river as a result of the bank erosion. Activities on the banks of the river would fall under the jurisdiction of the 310-law.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Legislative Breakfast: Valerie Kurth explained she has made preliminary steps in scheduling the Legislative Breakfast. She talked with two legislators to find a date that might work for most of the legislators. She would like to formally set the date of December 6th for the event. The Hilton Garden Inn's estimate for the breakfast etc. is approximately \$800. The breakfast will be from 7:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Pete Woll motioned “to have Valerie Kurth go ahead and tie in December 6th for the Legislative Breakfast, and to sign a contract with Hilton Garden Inn.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Valerie Kurth stated this is for Hailey Graff's 6-month evaluation. Hailey asked that the meeting be closed. The meeting was closed and Ginger Kauffman and Sean Johnson left the room. The meeting was re-opened and Ginger Kauffman and Sean Johnson returned.

Pete Woll motioned “the board take Hailey Graff off the probation period at this time, and make her a full-time employee of the district. And, starting next pay period (#23) to give her a raise to \$19.74 off of the Federal pay scale, reflecting that we are only using this pay scale for reference purposes and not following any other federal guidelines.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Office Closure & Holiday: Valerie Kurth explained she is requesting two actions. With regard to the office closure, for the last four years we have closed the office on the Friday after Thanksgiving and let employees use comp time or annual leave for that day. The other request is because Veterans Day is observed on Monday, November 12th. Convention is that week, so if staff travels to convention, they will be driving on the holiday. Valerie asked if it could be shifted to a floating holiday for staff going to convention, so they could take the holiday on a different day. Ronald Buentemeier clarified that since the 12th is a holiday, the 310-meeting will be on Tuesday the 13th. Valerie stated she is currently the only staff person that will be going to convention. Pete suggested staff attending convention take holiday leave on the 23rd instead of using comp or annual leave on that day.

John Ellis motioned “that the office be closed on November 23rd, the Friday after Thanksgiving; and that any staff members that attend convention be allowed to use their holiday that they would have had on the 12th for the 23rd.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Flathead County P&Z Board (FCP&Z) Representative: Ginger Kauffman reported a letter was received from FCP&Z stating Dean Sirucek's term ends 12/31/2018. Dean stated he would be willing to continue for another year. Terms are for one year.

John Ellis motioned “that Dean Sirucek be reappointed to the Flathead County Planning & Zoning Board as Flathead CD representative.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Dean Sirucek abstained from voting.*



Monthly Budget Report: Ginger Kauffman reviewed the September Monthly Budget Report with the board. John Ellis motioned “to approved the September 2018 End of Month Budget Report.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Flathead CD Staff: Valerie Kurth & Hailey Graf reported:

District Office and Outreach

1. Advertisements: Flathead Beacon (Fall 310, Seedling Program)
2. Valerie and Hailey attended the Area V meeting in Helmville and the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission meeting in West Glacier.
3. Staff met with the new NRCS District Conservationist, Sean Johnson, to share information about CD responsibilities and activities.
4. Valerie and Hailey attended the Haskill Basin Watershed Council meeting.
5. Valerie and Hailey attended the Montana Watershed Coordination Council symposium in Whitefish. Valerie helped organize the Whitefish-area field trip, and she made arrangements to visit the Reimer restoration site on Haskill Creek. Participants were impressed at the quality of the project, and they appreciated being able to talk directly with Kent Reimer about it.
6. Hailey attended the quarterly Flathead CORE meeting in Creston.
7. Hailey attended the Interagency Meeting at the Lost Trail Wildlife Refuge.

On-the-Ground Projects

Cow Creek –Valerie and Hailey worked with project partners to coordinate and conduct a field day with Whitefish High School FREEFLOW members and GIS students. Students spent a day collecting a range of data related to water quality and stream morphology measurements, including cross sections, water chemistry, macroinvertebrates, and habitat. We visited both impacted sites (Barnes and Erbes) and a reference reach for each.

Landowner Programs

Cost-Shares

FY19 – We continue to get inquiries about the cost-share program, and we recently received an application for reforestation.

Seedling Program – Valerie and Hailey have already processed 7 seedling orders.

Education and Outreach

Education Trunk Workshop – Hailey helped to plan and organize this workshop at Lone Pine State Park. The workshop is hosted by Flathead CORE and is geared towards teaching teachers what resources we have (such as the Riparian Education Trunk and the Rolling Rivers Trailer) that are available to them. Eleven teachers and 7 other resource educators attended the workshop.

Kalispell After-Care Program – This program is open to all students in the greater Kalispell area and is tailored to students whose parents or guardians cannot pick them up right after school gets out. It is a fun program that tries to make it an education experience by bringing



in outside presenters as often as possible. On October 19, Hailey presented to approximately 40 students about soil properties and led a soil painting activity.

Website/social media

Hailey wrote several new posts for our website and Facebook page on topics including fall yard clean up, winter pollinator habitat, and changes to the Education Grant Program. Website traffic included 372 individual users and 1,180 page-views and Facebook post-reach was 1,751 for the last 30 days.

Samantha Tappenbeck, Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM), submitted the following report dated 10/22/2018:

Helped with field day for Whitefish High School FREEFLOW students: Cow Creek

- 28 students on 10/3/18
- Education event - water quality and stream monitoring at four sites
- Pre-implementation data collection for Cow Creek 319 restoration project
- Stations: stream chemistry, vegetation survey, cross-sections/physical data, bank erosion hazard index, macroinvertebrate survey

2019 Conservation Calendar: Request for events and topics

- SWCDM is working with partners to develop a conservation-themed calendar
- Each month will include dates for conservation-related events
- Photos and event dates/details welcome!

Montana Watershed Coordination Council Symposium: October 10-12, Whitefish

- Presented with Brita/LCFWG on the Thompson River WRP planning process
- Presented with Lincoln CD on an education/outreach project associated with a restoration project in Eureka

Assisting Flathead Lakers with outreach to Ashley Creek landowners

- Outreach strategy - development of online survey and mailing
- Planning a public meeting

Upcoming events:

- **MACD Convention:** November 13-16, Billings (*room block ends Oct. 29)
- **Soil Moisture Workshops:** Focusing on soil moisture measurement, technologies, and applications supporting agricultural management and drought resilience;
http://climate.umt.edu/sm_workshops/
 - November 7 (Greenough) & November 9 (Columbus);
 - No charge, lunch provided



Natural Resources & Conservation Service (NRCS): Sean Johnson, NRCS, reported:
Programs

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
 - Sign-up deadline of Oct. 19th
 - 28 applications, Friday ended at 32
 - Up from 21 at time of September board meeting
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**
 - 1 contract renewals
 - Started with 4 but three have dropped out

Review Items

- Lost Trail Tour
 - 23 people including representation from NRCS, USFWS, DNRC, FWP, FHA, Weyerhaeuser, Salish/Kootenai Tribe, among others
- Interagency meeting
 - NRCS, FCD, USFWS, DNRC, RD, Extension were at the meeting giving updates on each agency and what we have coming up

Upcoming Items

- Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) State Convention

Miscellaneous

- Montana converting over to “work units”
 - Flathead and Lincoln will be a work unit
 - A new supervisory DC position is being created to manage both counties
 - Applicant should be selected by first part of November roughly

Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD): Pete Woll reported MACD is currently preparing for convention.

Flathead County Planning Board (FCPB): Dean Sirucek reported during the October 10th meeting, two zoning change requests were discussed. There was also lengthy discussion about proposed changes to the zoning regulations. All three were forwarded with positive recommendations. Amendments to agricultural zoning regulations will be addressed separately in January.

Whitefish City Planning Board (WCPB): John Ellis stated he was unable to attend the October 18th meeting. Meeting items included an accessory apartment; residential area behind Marriot Hotel changing 3 bedroom units to 2 bedroom units; rezoning request for commercial property in the Wisconsin corridor to be changed back to residential; and a request for a conditional rezoning on Baker Avenue. All passed. The next meeting will be held in November. John noted his term will also expire December 31, 2018, and that he has reapplied.



Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC3): Lori Curtis submitted the following report: The UC3 last met on Wednesday, September 26th at the Glacier National Park Community Room. I provided the Legislative Services update on behalf of Hope Stockwell, Mary Riddles provided a Crown Management Partners update, and Kate Wilson provided a Flathead Basin Commission update. The AIS program updates were presented including presentations from all UC3 committees and program partners. The next meeting will take place in December or January.

All AIS program partners also met on October 16 & 17 in Helena to review the season, discuss successes and challenges, and to make recommendations for improvements. Final recommendations will be sent to FWP Director Martha Williams.

Haskill Basin Watershed Council (HBWC): Valerie Kurth reported the meeting included discussion with Neal DeZort and Craig Workman from the City of Whitefish regarding reservoir management. The city is exploring groundwater options south of Whitefish, which would reduce the demand on Haskill Creek. There was also an update on the Whitefish Municipal Watershed Project and the culvert replacement on Haskill Basin Road. The latter has stalled because adjacent landowners will not lend support unless there is a guarantee that the road will be paved.

Flathead Basin Commission (FBC): Dean Sirucek reported the October 10th meeting included discussion about the work plan for the next fiscal year, budget status and budget proposal to the Legislature; AIS public communications grant funding; Flathead Basin TMDL; Confederated Kootenai Salish Tribe review of the water compact; and discussion regarding the BNSF site at the old tie plant in Somers. Dean stated DNRC is extending the ground water control area to the south and east, which will affect a proposed subdivision east of Somers. BNSF did rehab work this spring where Creosote Creek goes into Flathead Lake. A meeting was held today with BNSF, the Sliter family, Flathead Land Trust, FW&P and other agencies. The Sliter family is reconsidering donating and/or selling part of their land for a park. If this moves forward, it would potentially include the bank design which Flathead CD helped to fund. The next meeting is January 30, 2019.

Flathead River Commission (FRC): No report.

Clark Fork & Kootenai River Basins Council (CFKRBC): Verdell Jackson expressed concern about DNRC leading the council, and he noted the next meeting will be held in November.



MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

- Dean Sirucek stated he received a letter from the County Commissioners directing all those on the Planning Board and Board of Adjustments to attend a 3-hour land use training session this Wednesday, which will be held by a MACo attorney.
- Ronald Buentemeier noted there will be discussion regarding 124 or 310 jurisdiction in regards to a path along Whitefish River at the November 310-meeting. Pete Woll is the only supervisor that will be attending convention and definitely be absent.
- Valerie Kurth reported that we received an email from Nathan Green, Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). He requested that conservation districts try to remind landowners who are filing for a 310 notice of emergency that they should also check with ACOE about filing an emergency action with them as well. It is very difficult process when the landowner does emergency work before checking with ACOE.

The next 310-Stream Permit meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT.

Adjournment: Dean Sirucek motioned “to adjourn.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 P.M.

Submitted By:

Ginger Kauffman
Administrator

Valerie Kurth, Ph.D.
Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

11/13/2018 Ronald Buentemeier Chair
(Date) (Signature) (Title – Chair etc.)

